

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 2, 5-11, 13-18, and 20-23 are currently pending. No claim amendments are presented, thus no new matter is added.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 1, 5-9, 13-17, 20-23, were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Ishii et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,546,188, herein "Ishii"); and Claims 2, 10, 11 and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being unpatentable over Ishii in view of Newman et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,154,600, herein "Newman").

In response to the rejection of Claims 1, 5-9, 13-17, 20-23 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e), Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection as independent Claims 1, 9, and 17 state novel features clearly not taught or rendered obvious by Ishii.

Independent Claim 1 relates to an effect applying device including a display for displaying various types of information and a means for displaying effect specifying information which specifies effects for images in a preset arrangement on the display. A selecting means is also provided for selecting desired effect specifying information from the effect specifying information displayed on the display, and the selected effect specifying information is then applied to input images.

Independent Claim 1 also recites, *inter alia*, displaying

the arrangement of said effect specifying information in plural lines, and

the arrangement of said effect specifying information includes a ***first arrangement for specifying short-term effects which can be applied for specified time***, and a ***second arrangement for specifying continuous effects which can be continuously applied***.

Independent Claims 9 and 17 recite substantially similar features, therefore the arguments presented below also apply to these claims.

An exemplary, non-limiting, embodiment of the user interface allowing a user to specify a first arrangement for specifying short-term effects which can be applied for specified time is shown, for example, at Fig 12, reference numeral 110A. The interface provides a list (111) of selectable “single-shot” effects and allows this user to drag-and-drop the selected effect into the effect setting area (112). Similarly, the continuous effect setting screen provides a list of selectable continuous effects (115), which may be dragged and dropped into the continuous effects setting area (113). Such an interface provides a first and second arrangement of the effect specifying information, based on whether short-term or continuous effect specifying information is selected by a user.

Turning to the applied reference, Ishii describes a editing system and an editing method for moving picture data. In addressing the above-noted portions of independent Claim 1, the Official Action cites Fig. 33 and col. 60, lines 26-60 of Ishii, and states that Ishii describes a “user row in which the user can drag and drop the ‘wipe function’ for example from 25a into the effect functions in the locations”, and “by performing the drag and drop function the user creates plural lines of effects that can be both short and long term.”¹ Thus, the user interface of Ishii displays effects and patterns and allows a user to drag-and-drop the effects and patterns to be applied at a “flow of time”, but does not present different (first and second) arrangements that are displayed based on whether the effects are short-term, or continuous effects.

Instead, Ishii describes that the buttons corresponding to effects are displayed using the same arrangement regardless of the duration (short-term or continuous) that the user wishes to implement the selected effect. As described in Fig. 33, and col. 60, lines 26-20 of Ishii, the displayed arrangement is the same without regard to the duration of the selected effect. In contrast, independent Claim 1 clearly recites *displaying the arrangement of the*

¹ Outstanding Official Action, p. 3.

effect specifying information in plural lines, and the arrangement includes a *first arrangement for specifying short-term effects which can be applied for specified time*, and a *second arrangement for specifying continuous effects which can be continuously applied*. As discussed above, Ishii fails to teach or suggest the above-noted claimed feature, as Ishii fails to teach or suggest an arrangement displaying the effect specifying information in plural lines, which arrangement includes a first arrangement for specifying short-term effects, and a second arrangement for specifying continuous effects. Instead, as noted above, Ishii fails to teach or suggest that the display of the available effects are differentiated whatsoever based on “long-term” and “continuous” effects (all of the effects can be equally applied), much less that a plurality of arrangement are provided to display the effects differently based on their intended duration.

Accordingly, for at least the reasons discussed above, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of Claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) be withdrawn. For substantially the same reasons as given with respect to Claim 1, Applicants also respectfully submit that independent Claims 9 and 17 patentably define over Ishii.

In response to the rejection of Claims 2, 10, 11 and 18 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

As discussed above, Ishii fails to teach or suggest the above differentiated features recited in independent Claim 1. Likewise, Newman fails to remedy this deficiency, and therefore, none of the cited references neither alone nor in combination, teach or suggest Applicants' Claims 2, 10, 11 or 18, which include the above distinguished feature by virtue of independent recitation or dependency. Therefore, the Official Action does not provide a *prima facie* case of obviousness with regard to any of these claims.

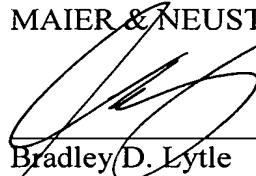
Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of Claims 2, 10, 11 and 18 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 be withdrawn.

Consequently, in view of the present amendment and in light of the foregoing comments, it is respectfully submitted that the invention defined by Claims 1, 2, 5-11, 13-18, and 20-23 is patentably distinguishing over the applied references. The present application is therefore believed to be in condition for formal allowance and an early and favorable reconsideration of the application is therefore requested.

Should the Examiner deem that any further action is necessary to place this application in even better form for allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact Applicant's undersigned representative at the below listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

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